

**COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR NONENZYMATIC LIGATION OF  
OLIGONUCLEOTIDES AND DETECTION OF GENETIC POLYMORPHISMS**

**Abstract**

The invention is directed to novel compositions and methods for nonenzymatic ligation of  
5 oligonucleotides. In one aspect of the invention, the nonenzymatic ligation is selenium-mediated  
or tellurium mediated ligation. In another aspect, the invention provides for the use of  
fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) to detect the nonenzymatic ligation.

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